be used to determine high temperature corrosion (degraded regions) of a component." In other words, the claimed method produces at least one useful, concrete, and tangible result of providing improved nondestructive testing of components by determining degraded regions in the component. As pointed out in paragraph [0022] of the present invention, an ability to identify a defect free microstructure of a base material, i.e., an absence of a degraded region, is of considerable value in the case of gas turbine blade and vane components. Accordingly, determination of a presence of a degraded region has practical value in that components having defects can be easily identified.

In addition to support for at least one tangible result in the specification, claim 16 also includes language directed to a tangible result. Specifically, the preamble of claim 16 recites the tangible result of "determ[ing] a degraded region of the base material." For all the above reasons, claim 16, and claims 17-29 and 31-32 depending there from, are believed to be in condition for allowance with respect to 35 U.S.C. §101.

Conclusion

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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